



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/815,115	03/31/2004	Darin G. Schaeffer	8627/331	6599
757	7590	07/18/2008		
BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE			EXAMINER	
P.O. BOX 10395			RYCKMAN, MELISSA K	
CHICAGO, IL 60610			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3773	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			07/18/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Interview Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/815,115	SCHAEFFER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	MELISSA RYCKMAN	3773	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) MELISSA RYCKMAN. (3) Tom Burton.
 (2) Jackie Ho. (4) Rich Stanley.

Date of Interview: 15 July 2008.

Type: a) Telephonic b) Video Conference
 c) Personal [copy given to: 1) applicant 2) applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) Yes e) No.
 If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: 48 and 50.

Identification of prior art discussed: Camrud and Smith.

Agreement with respect to the claims f) was reached. g) was not reached. h) N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Regarding claim 48, the examiner suggested defining the structure of the ring to include the zig-zag and distinguish this from the connector member. The proposed amendments for claim 50 make this claim and the dependent claims, directed towards a different species, Fig. 7. Upon receiving the amendments the examiner will update the search.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

/Melissa Ryckman/
 Examiner, Art Unit 3773

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an
 Attachment to a signed Office action.

Examiner's signature, if required